

CLAIMS

1. Use of a histacalin protein (as defined herein) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of conjunctivitis.
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a blood feeding ectoparasite.
3. Use according to claim 2, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a tick.
4. Use according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is the MS-HBP1, FS-HBP1, FS-HBP2 or D.RET6 protein, a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.
5. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.
6. Use according to claim 5, wherein one or more antihistamine agents or anti-sedative agents is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a histacalin protein as described in any one of claims 1 to 4, an antihistamine agent and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.
8. A method of treating or preventing conjunctivitis comprising administering to a subject a histacalin protein as described in any one of claims 1 to 4, or a pharmaceutical composition as described in any one of claims 5 to 7 in a therapeutically-effective dosage.
9. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a method according to claim 8, wherein said conjunctivitis is non-infective conjunctivitis, preferably allergic conjunctivitis such as seasonal or perennial allergic conjunctivitis.